

Joshua Baker

#278568 | March 17, 2021

Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, Recommended Draft**

I'm writing to express strong support for the Shelter to Housing Continuum and the amendments proposed by Portland: Neighbors Welcome. These include -Extending the Housing Emergency at least until the end of the declared public health emergency, plus six months to help ensure a safe transition back to some version of normal. -Allow sanctioned Outdoor Shelters in appropriate, approved sites in Open Space zones and in the right-of-way (ROW) and remove the blanket ban on sanctioned shelters in Open Space Zones and the ROW and allow small sanctioned shelters in specific sites, if approved by a vote of City Council. -Reduce time and cost for setting up Outdoor Shelters. -Do not require vehicle dwellings to have sewer connections, which would make many existing dwellings illegal or prohibitively expensive (\$10-20k per connection). Adopt alternative best-practice sanitation solutions, such as establishing dumping sites, a mobile street team, or a pumping service such as those used for portable toilets, as Eugene does.

Testimony is presented without formatting.